

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PL

SUBJECT: CAPTAIN CZECHOWICZ ON RFE

1. CAPTAIN ANDRZEJ CZECHOWICZ' S BOOK " SEVEN HARD YEARS" ABOUT HIS SERVICE AS A POLISH INTELLIGENCE OPERATIVE WORKING FOR RFE WAS REVIEWED IN THE PARTY PAPER, TRYBUNA LUDU, JUNE 26. A LONG ARTICLE ENTITLED " THE MECHANISMS OF DIVERSION" GAVE PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE CAPTAIN' S COMMENTS ON THE RFE- CIA LINK AND ON RFE INFORMATION- GATHERING ACTIVITIES. ON THE LATTER SUBJECT, TRYBUNA HIGHLIGHTED SECTIONS OF CZECHOWICZ' S BOOK DESCRIBING AN RFE CARD FILE OF INFORMANTS WHICH ALLEGEDLY CONTAINED THE NAMES OF MANY PEOPLE WHO HAD SUPPLIED INFORMATION UNWITTINGLY, BECAUSE OF THOUGHTLESSNESS OR NAIVETE (THE IMPLICATION, OF COURSE, WAS THAT INFORMANTS' NAMES ARE NOW KNOWN TO THE POLES BECUASE CZECHOWICZ' S WORK). TRYBUNA ALSO REPORTED CZECHOWICZ' S COMMENTS ABOUT RFE- CIA INTEREST, AFTER THE MARCH 1968 STUDENT DISTURBANCES IN POLAND, IN THE NAMES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF AS MANY JOURNALISTS AS POSSIBLE, INCLUDING THE PERSONNEL OF TEN (UNNAMED) POLISH EDITORIAL STAFFS.

2. TRYBUNA CONCLUDED BY ASKING HOW, WHEN US
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REPRESENTATIVES ESPOUSE THE PRINCIPLE OF FREER MOVEMENT OF
IDEAS AND INFORMATION, THE US COULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT SUCH A
" DECIDEDLY DIVERSIONARY" INSTITUTION AS RFE.

3. COMMENT: THERE IS NO EVIDENCE HERE LATELY OF A PRESS
CAMPAIGN ABOUT RFE, ALTHOUGH OCCASIONAL ARTICLES CONTINUE
TO APPEAR. A CERTAIN LACK OF URGENCY IS INDICATED BY THE
FACT THAT THE TRYBUNA REVIEW OF THE CZECHOWICZ BOOK APPEARED
ONLY AFTER THE BOOK HAD BEEN AVAILABLE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

4. THIS LATEST ARTICLE' S EMPHASIS ON RFE INFORMATION-
GATHERING AND ITS ASSERTION THAT JOURNALISTS- AT LEAST
AFTER THE 1968 MARCH EVENTS-- WERE A PARTICULAR INTELLIGENCE
TARGET, NO DOUBT ARE MEANT AS DOMESTIC WARNING SIGNALS
TO THE UNWARY.

DAVIES

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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